OUTLINE:

**Intro:** Zoos are one of the most common tourist attractions. However, keeping animals in cages in the name of entertainment has led to one important argument in the animal world: Should animals be kept in zoos?

**BP1:** People who are against zoos argue that animals should be allowed to live in their natural habitat and not be forced into inhumane conditions.

**BP2:** On the other hand, people who are in favor of zoos argue that they are an important educational tool.

**BP3:** Clearly, both sides represent a reasonable argument. However, due to technological advancements, people can gain knowledge about animals through other programs: TV shows, online courses, and blog posts, to name a few.

**Conclusion:**  In conclusion, animals should not be kept in captivity, as its proven that this does more harm than good.

Zoos are one of the most common tourist attractions. However, keeping animals in cages in the name of entertainment has led to one important argument in the animal world: Should animals be kept in zoos? This is a debatable issue and there are people on both sides of the equation. Some people believe that animals belong in their natural habitat and not in cages. Whereas, others believe that zoos are important for educating people about animals. Although it is evident that there are benefits to having zoos, the disadvantages clearly outweigh the benefits.

People who are against zoos argue that animals should be allowed to live in their natural habitat and not be forced into inhumane conditions. Wild animals struggle to adapt to a confined environment, however, many make the transition - even if it is forced upon them. This causes them to be dependent on humans, which means they would not survive in the wild if to be released. Animals are also mentally affected by confinement. As animals cannot carry-out their normal habits such as: hunting, migrating, and hibernating. This can cause stress and unhappiness among animals living in zoos, which in turn causes a decrease in life span. Studies indicate that 70% of animals living in zoos show signs of depression and die up to 20 years earlier than their wild counterparts.

On the other hand, people who are in favor of zoos argue that they are an important educational tool. Staff from the zoo might go to local schools to give presentations or offer educational programs in the zoo itself. Thus, helping to educate children and families about the animals with whom we share this planet. Educating children about animals will also ensure that they grow up with respect for wildlife and nature. These educational programs may also convince people to donate to charities and conservation projects. Thus, helping to raise money for providing proper care for animals.

Clearly, both sides represent a reasonable argument. However, due to technological advancements, people can gain knowledge about animals through other programs: TV shows, online courses, and blog posts, to name a few. This makes using zoos for education unnecessary, as there are many other substitutes. Taking advantage of technology and using other means (than zoos) for gaining knowledge, will end the constant suffering animals face in captivity. Thus, allowing animals to thrive in their natural habitats just like nature intended.

In conclusion, animals should not be kept in captivity, as it is proven that this does more harm than good. What could be more desirable than knowledge about animals being spread without the suffering of animals in cages? People can receive essential knowledge through other means guaranteeing a happier and longer life for wild animals.